



The Research Review



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March 1, 2007



In celebration of the *Read Across America* program and the birthday of Dr. Seuss, the House Education Committee welcomed Mrs. Wilson's first grade class from Nashville's Shayne Elementary School to its meeting on Wednesday. The National Education Association began *Read Across America* ten years ago as a home, school and community campaign.

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Photo of the week:



Vice Chairman Tommie Brown reads to two first graders from Nashville's Shayne Elementary School as part of the *Read Across America* celebration.

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Agriculture

Jeremy Maxwell

The Agriculture Committee met Tuesday and considered one bill. **HB 1083** (M. Turner) was rolled two weeks. The bill revises requirements relative to termite service contracts. The committee also heard from a guest speaker. Rob Mayfield, Vice President of Mayfield Dairy Farms, presented a company overview of Mayfield's ice cream and milk products.



Children & Family Affairs

Amelia Mitchell

The **Children & Family Affairs Committee** did not meet this week.

The **Domestic Relations Subcommittee** met on Tuesday, February 27, and the following bill was passed to full committee:

HB 0094 (Borchert) which requires a self-employed child support obligor to establish a bank account for deposit of child support funds. If the obligor is a partner, member, owner or officer of a business entity, then the entity must establish the bank account. The department of human services would retrieve those support funds subject to income assignment by automatic bank withdrawal on a periodic basis. Failure of an obligor to deposit the required amount into the account or authorize automatic withdrawal of the funds by the department would constitute failure to comply with a child support order, which is punishable by a civil penalty of \$100 for a first violation, \$200 for a second violation, and \$500 for each subsequent violation.

The **Family Justice Subcommittee** met on Tuesday, March 28th.

HB 1263 (Lynn) This bill as amended expands the list of conditions for the notification of the school principal when a delinquent student reenters the school system.

Rep. Borchert





Commerce

Matt Barnes



Rep. Todd

Full Committee

The **Commerce Committee** had no bills on calendar but met to discuss locksmith licensing issues. Rep. Todd requested the hearing last week after expressing concern over PC 885, passed by the legislature in 2006 as HB 1731/SB 2024. Rep. Todd claimed some lock companies in West Tennessee were not

properly notified about licensing and that the legislation should have included a grandfather clause. He suggested the implementation date, which currently stands at July 1, 2007, should be delayed for a year while these and other issues are straightened out.



Meredith Sullivan, assistant commissioner for the Division of Regulatory Boards within the Department of Commerce and Insurance, said the 2006 legislation was not a department bill and that the department is presently following the guidelines established within the legislation. In doing so, the department has extended the period for public comment on rules and regulations and has pursued all avenues for notification of affected parties, according to Sullivan. Those wishing to be added to the notification list may contact the department.

As for delaying the implementation date, Sullivan and Chairman Curtiss said that would have to be done by statute. Regarding the possible need to grandfather in certain locksmiths in order to avoid their having to take a licensing test, Sullivan said the test will likely be fairly simple and open-book.

Industrial Impact Subcommittee

The **Industrial Impact Subcommittee** met with five bills on calendar, rolling all but one.

HB 349 (Miller, L.) raises the legal age from 10 to 16 for the purchase of Class C fireworks and increases the amounts of fines for offenses by retailers. An amendment by Rep. Harmon changed the fine for

first offense from up to \$500 to up to \$100; for second offense from up to \$1,000 to up to \$250; and for subsequent offenses from up to \$1,000 and a one-year permit suspension to up to \$500 and a one-year permit suspension. *[passed to full committee as amended]*

HB 223 (Moore) requires all fire services curricula offered through the Tennessee Fire Services and Codes Enforcement Academy to be approved by the Tennessee Commission on Fire Fighting Personnel Standards and Education. Rep. Moore asked that if any members had any concerns over the bill to call him. *[rolled two weeks]*



HB 1027 (Todd) allows those licensed under the Department of Commerce and Insurance to retire their licenses. Rep. Todd pointed out the same has been done for real estate licenses and said he plans to meet with the Department to work on the bill. *[rolled for one week]*

HB 1192 (Favors) requires TennCare MCOs to reimburse providers employed by federally qualified health centers for care rendered from the date they applied for credentialing. *[rolled two weeks]*

HB 1278 (Lynn) requires blasting areas where reportable accidents have occurred to remain undisturbed until the Department of Commerce and Insurance completes its initial investigation. Rep. Lynn had previously requested that the bill be rolled for one week. However, Rep. Harmon, after mentioning the high number of blasting bills in Commerce, made a motion that all blasting bills be placed on one calendar. *[motion passed]*

Utilities and Banking Subcommittee

The **Utilities and Banking Subcommittee** meeting was canceled. The only bill on calendar, **HB 390 (Crider)**, was rolled for one week.



Conservation & Environment

Jeremy Maxwell

Conservation and Environment Committee

The Conservation and Environment Committee met Wednesday and considered two bills. **HB 64** (M. Turner) passed to FWM as amended. The amended bill exempts hybrid vehicles from the state sales tax until June 30, 2012. **HB 696** (McCord) passed to C&R as amended. The amended bill authorizes speakers' appointments to serve three consecutive two-year terms instead of two on the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission.

Wildlife Subcommittee

Wildlife Subcommittee did not meet.

Environment Subcommittee

The Environment Subcommittee met Wednesday and considered two bills. **HB 332** (Tidwell) passed to full committee. It replaces provision under which licensed professionals with proof of errors and omissions insurance are exempt from bonding requirements for subsurface sewage disposal systems with exemption for all state licensed professional engineers or registered engineer interns; limits applicability of bonding requirements for soil scientists, soil consultants, and percolation testers to persons whose approval has been suspended or revoked and later reinstated. **HB 1063** (Maggart) passed to full committee as amended. The amended bill authorizes cities, metropolitan governments, counties, and utility districts to create water and wastewater treatment authorities under conditions similar to those required by present law, but with certain differences regarding the board of commissioners for the authority and civil service status of the authority's employees. The committee also heard from Alan Leiserson, Department of Environment and Conservation's Legal Services Director. He spoke on TDEC's assessed penalties for water pollution control and air pollution control.

Parks Subcommittee

Parks Subcommittee did not meet.

Environment Chair Gilmore





Consumer & Employee Affairs

Lucy Wilson

House Consumer & Employee Affairs Committee did not meet this week.

The one bill on the **Employee Affairs Subcommittee** calendar was rolled one week by the sponsor. **HB 0595** by **M. Turner** addresses non-voting ex-officio members of the Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation. The Chair and Co-chairs of the Senate Commerce, Labor and Agriculture Committee and the House Consumer and Employee Affairs Committee would replace the Chair and Vice Chair of the Special Joint Committee on Workers' Compensation as non-voting ex-officio members. This bill is scheduled to be heard on the March 6, 2007 calendar.

The **Consumer Affairs Subcommittee** had two bills on calendar. **HB 0055** by **M. Turner** would require the retailer issuing a gift certificate to allow the recipient to redeem fifty percent of the gift certificate value in cash. The sponsor rolled this bill two weeks to be heard on March 16, 2007.

HB 0228 by **Moore** enacts the "Tennessee Truth in Music Advertising Act." The bill would make it a violation of the Tennessee Consumer Protection Act for someone to advertise or conduct a live musical performance by falsely implying a connection between the group performing and a recording group. For example, one could not advertise that Herman's Hermits were performing unless at least one of the performers had the legal right to use that name. The bill passed to the full committee.

Rep. M. Turner





Education

Pam Mason

Full Committee

The Education Committee met on Wednesday to consider its calendar and hear four presentations. Calendar action follows:

Referred to Calendar & Rules:

HJR 106 – (Winningham) endorses the “Read Across America” program.

Deferred 1 week:

HB 204 – (Hood)

In recognition of “Read Across America” and the celebration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday, Antoinette Lee, Tennessee Education Association, introduced the students of Mrs. Wilson’s class at Shane Elementary. The students then read with the Committee members a Dr. Seuss book.

The Boys and Girls Clubs Tennessee Alliance next addressed the committee on the work they do with students and their families. There are currently 557 registered students in programs across the state. Program areas include:

- Character and Leadership Development
- Education and Career Development
- Health and Life Skills
- The Arts
- Sports Fitness and Recreation

Next on the agenda was CompassLearning, a company that provides education software to aid teachers and students to learn more effectively.

The final presentation was given by Ms. Latricia Wilson, a guest of Rep. Cooper. Ms. Wilson addressed the committee on economics and inequity in education.

Higher Ed Subcommittee

The Subcommittee had no bills on calendar and did not meet.

K-12 Subcommittee

The Subcommittee had no bills to consider. In a presentation the members heard testimony from various parties on Pre-K and collaborative classrooms in the state.



Finance, Ways & Means

Julie Travis & Patrick Boggs

The Full Committee

Even though the committee did not have any bills to deliberate, the House Finance, Ways, and Means committee met on Tuesday, February 27th to hear a presentation made by the Comptroller of the Treasury, Mr. John Morgan. Comptroller Morgan presented the Overview of the Funding Board's last meeting in December 2006, regarding the review and projection of all things financial within state revenues for the end of the calendar year. Departmental Budget Hearings also began in full force on Wednesday, February 28th with Mrs. Rebecca Paul-Hargrove and her staff presenting the budget and proceeds estimation for the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation's upcoming fiscal year. Also in attendance during Wednesday's meeting, THDA Executive Director Ted Fellman and his budgetary staff submitted the FY07-08 budget request for the Tennessee Housing Development Agency, where they highlighted the positive things they have done with last year's appropriation. *(See Funding Board and Lottery summary in the second part of this report).*

Budget Hearings continue next week: We will continue to try to have extra seating reserved in the audience for legislators who are non-committee members and who wish to attend. The House budget hearings may also be observed through live video streaming on the internet through the legislature's website, <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us>.

Next Week's Scheduled Hearings (current as of February 28, 2007):

Tuesday, March 6, 2007:

Tennessee Human Rights Commission
by Ms. Amber Gooding, Executive Director

Dept. of Financial Institutions
by Mr. Greg Gonzales, Commissioner

Wednesday, March 7, 2007:

Dept. of Finance and Administration
by Mr. Dave Goetz, Commissioner

Dept. of General Services
by Ms. Gwendolyn S. Davis, Commissioner

Dept. of Revenue
by Mr. Reagan Farr, Commissioner

Dept. of Personnel
by Ms. Deborah Story, Commissioner

Thursday, March 8, 2007:

Dept. of Environment and Conservation
by Mr. Jim Fyke, Commissioner

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
by Mr. Gary Myers, Executive Director

The Budget Subcommittee

The Budget Subcommittee did not meet.





Finance, Ways & Means

Julie Travis & Patrick Boggs

Budget Hearings by Patrick Boggs

The Finance, Ways and Means Committee met **Tuesday** to hear a presentation on state revenues by Comptroller John Morgan. Comptroller Morgan relayed estimates made by the state's Funding Board on the economic situation that the state is in, and what that means for state revenues. The Funding Board is composed of a set of minds that include economists employed by the state's universities, as well as representatives of the financial overseers within state government. The result is an independent look at the state's income sources, and where those are expected to be headed.

The Funding Board believes that the economy of the state is currently slowing somewhat; though there may be faster growth in the future. The state's employment rate is good compared to the national average, though the growth rate in non-agricultural employment has slowed compared to the national mean. The largest source of revenue is the sales tax, and it is yet unclear what various economic forces will have on the sales tax collections. A particular concern in this area is the possibility of further rising gas prices; though, last summer's run-up of gas prices did not appear to have a significant effect. The franchise and excise tax collections have been very healthy, though there is no accurate economic model to explain whether or not this trend will continue, or where franchise and excise taxes are headed at all. For consideration of future revenues, the Funding Board estimates that there will be at least moderate growth, possibly due to increased economic activity if the Federal Reserve cuts interest rates. However, there was not a consensus on the calendar in terms of economic growth. Dr. Fox of the UTK presumes that the rest of this year will have sluggish growth, with a later uptick; however, the Fiscal

Review Committee estimates that this year will round out with vigorous growth and next year expansion will be protracted.

The committee met again on **Wednesday** to hear a budget update from Ms. Rebecca Paul-Hargrove, President and CEO, regarding the finances of the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation. The lottery has just completed its third full calendar year of sales, and the results are impressive. As of January 31, 2007, three years and eleven days of sales, the lottery has produced \$2.89 billion in sales, with \$1.56 billion distributed as prizes, \$775 million to the education account, \$16.3 million to after-school programs, and \$187.5 million to retailers. As for sales during this three year span, 73% were in the form of instant tickets, 16% went for Powerball drawings, 7% went to Cash 3, and the remaining 4% were in the form of other ticket options.

The last calendar year alone produced remarkable sales. The lottery surpassed \$1 billion in sales. Of the proceeds, 60% went to players in the form of prizes, 27% went to the education fund, 2.1% went to procurement vendors, 1.5% went towards advertising, 0.4% went for other gaming expenses, and 1.6% was spent on administrative costs. In the current fiscal year, the lottery is on track to return \$268 – 271 million to the education account, in addition to \$12 million to after-school programs. The next fiscal year is expected to see a 3% increase in sales and a 2% increase in profit, with an additional \$12 million to after-school activities. Unclaimed prizes account for less than 2% of sales.



Since its inception the Lottery has recorded \$2.89 billion in sales.

The consensus position on the estimate of growth of state revenues is as follows:

	FY 2006-2007		FY 2007-2008	
	Low	High	Low	High
Total State Taxes	3.20%	3.70%	3.80%	4.30%
General Fund Only	2.95%	3.45%	4.05%	4.55%



Government Operations

Kristina Ryan

The Government Operations Committee convened on Wednesday morning to consider eight bills on the calendar. All legislation before the committee this week were bills to be reviewed for rulemaking purposes.

House Bill 65 and House Bill 625 by Representative Mike Turner were both rolled for one week.

The following bills were reviewed and referred to their appropriate standing committees:

HB 200 by Representative Odom - passes to the Consumer and Employee Affairs Committee. This legislation enacts the Credit Security Act of 2007, which allows an individual to request a freeze on their credit report information so that access will not be granted to a third party under certain circumstances. An amendment placed on the bill would remove the rulemaking provisions.

HB 1188 by Representative Sherry Jones – passes to the Judiciary Committee. This bill provides reimbursement for sexual assault victims for expenses related to forensic sexual assault examinations. This program would be implemented by the creation of a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Fund. In addition, this legislation stipulates that a five member advisory committee would oversee all program criteria related to this fund. The Department of Finance and Administration will be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations in order to establish guidelines for the operation of the fund as well as the disbursement of funds.

HB 1220 by Representative McDonald – passes to the Transportation Committee. This bill establishes a program for re-cycling of old license plates. The Department of Revenue is assigned rulemaking authority in order to implement the provisions of this legislation.

HB 1827 by Representative Mike Turner – passes to the Transportation Committee. Under this legislation, the Certificates of Driving program would be abolished and replaced with an issuance of new temporary driver's licenses for individuals whose presence in the United States has been authorized by the federal government. The Department of Safety is delegated rulemaking authority in order to enforce the provisions of this bill.

HB 366 by Representative Rowland – passes to the Transportation Committee. This legislation abolishes the Certificate for Driving program. In addition, the bill requires that the driver's license be issued only to a lawful permanent U.S. resident and renewed on an annual basis. The Department of Safety would be responsible for promulgating rules and regulations.

HB 270 by Representative Mumpower - passes to the Health and Human Resources Committee. This bill divides the Board of Occupational and Physical Therapy into the Board of Physical Therapy and the Board of Occupational Therapy.



Health & Human Resources

Judy Narramore

Full Committee

The **Health & Human Resources Committee** met on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, to hear a presentation from Michael Blackwell, DVM, MPH, Dean of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tennessee. Dr. Blackwell gave an overview of the public practice of veterinary medicine and then responded to questions that touched on particular needs for capital funding at the school and implementation of the federal debt forgiveness program for graduates.

Professional Occupations Subcommittee

The **Professional Occupations Subcommittee** held its first meeting of the 105th General Assembly on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, with three bills on calendar. Chairlady Favors welcomed members and staff to the subcommittee. **HB 0230** (Moore) that requires the EMS Board to develop and implement a training plan to instruct EMTs and EMT-Ps in the recognition of post traumatic stress syndrome was referred to full committee. **HB 1169** (Windle) that defines “surgical technologist” and defines the scope of practice for a surgical technologist was discussed and then rolled two weeks for review of the amendment offered by Rep. Windle. Rep. M. Turner took **HB 0616** off notice.

Health Care Facilities Subcommittee

The **Health Care Facilities Subcommittee** met Wednesday, February 28, 2007, to consider two bills. After further testimony, **HB 0063** (M. Turner) as amended that revises current statute concerning wheeled mobility devices and requires TennCare to reimburse for wheeled mobility devices at reimbursement levels at least equal to the levels allowed under Medicare was referred to full committee. At the request of Chairman Overbey, **HB 0222** (Moore) was rolled two weeks.

Public Health & Family Assistance Subcommittee

The **Public Health & Family Assistance Subcommittee** held its first meeting of the 105th General Assembly on Wednesday, February 28, 2007, with four bills on notice. Chairlady Pruitt welcomed new and returning subcommittee members. After lengthy discussion and testimony, **HB 0121** (L. DeBerry) that requires a pharmacist to notify and receive signed informed consent from the prescribing physician and patient prior to the interchange of an anti-epileptic drug was referred to full committee. Rep. DeBerry noted that she would request a public hearing before the full committee if interested parties are unable to resolve their differences with this legislation. **HB 0237** (Overbey) as amended that authorizes the Department of Health to study the effectiveness of pulse oximetry screening for newborns in a pilot project at hospitals in one grand division of the state was referred to full committee. The amendment adds a religious exemption provision to the printed bill. **HB 0443** (Moore) was rolled one week by Chairlady Pruitt. Rep. M. Turner rolled **HB 0650** three weeks.

Speaker Pro Tem De Berry





Judiciary

Jamie Wyatt

The Full Judiciary Committee

The Full Judiciary Committee did not meet this week.

Civil Practice & Procedure Subcommittee

The Civil Practice & Procedure Subcommittee met to discuss seven bills this week. HB 206 by Rep. Hawk was rolled five weeks. This bill states a body of a deceased person may be disposed of by cremation if the deceased has designated such in writing. HB 758 by Rep. Matheny was rolled three weeks. This bill increases the level of tort liability for government entities. HB 1338 by Rep. Briley, which deals with judicial selection, was rolled one week. HB 37 by Rep. Hackworth, which increases compensation for jury service, was taken off notice.

The following bills were approved for passage to the Full Judiciary Committee:

- **HB 417 by Rep. Coleman** makes various changes to statutes pertaining to probate, estate administration, wills, guardians, uniform transfers to minors, life insurance and taxes. It adds a time limitation for filing claims against an estate by requiring a clerk to file all claims received no later than 12 months from a decedent's death. It requires a declaration directing the withdrawal or withholding of medical care to be in writing, signed by the declarant, and either notarized or witnessed by two witnesses. Also, it sets out that there must be an attestation clause included in the declaration attesting to the witnesses' compliance with the statute's requirements. The bill also states that a durable power of attorney for health care will now be valid if it is in writing, signed by the declarant, contains an attestation clause attesting to the witness' compliance with the statute's requirements, and is either attested by a notary with no witnesses or witnessed by two witnesses. Also, the bill gives a custodian additional power by allowing a custodian to transfer part or all of the custodial

property to a qualified minor's trust without court order.

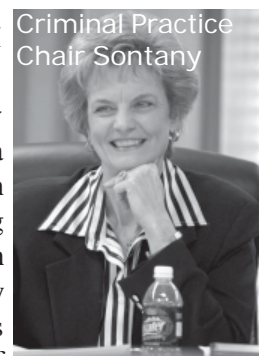
- **HB 395 by Rep. Coleman** states a vacancy exists if, prior to September 1, any duly elected judge becomes ineligible as a result of death or other disqualifying event prior to taking office.
- **HB 225 by Rep. Moore** requires the Commissioner of Finance and Administration to report every five years to the chief clerks of the senate and house of representatives the percentage of change in the average consumer price index and inform them what the statutory minimum and maximum authorized fine for each offense would be if adjusted to reflect the compounded cost-of-living increases during such five year period.

Criminal Practice & Procedure Subcommittee

On Wednesday, the Criminal Practice & Procedure Subcommittee met to discuss fifteen bills. Chairman Sontany announced that all sexual offender bills referred to the Judiciary Committee will be heard on the 21st of March.

The following bills were approved for passage to the Full Judiciary Committee:

- **HB 238 by Rep. Overbey** permits the issuance of a restricted driver license for the sole purpose of going to and from a DUI offender's probation office.
- **HB 458 by Rep. Sontany** authorizes a court to require a person sentenced to probation to undergo an alcohol and drug assessment, treatment, or both if the court deems it necessary and licensed treatment is available. The expense of assessment and treatment is the responsibility of the person receiving it unless the court finds the individual indigent. CONTINUED ON NEXT PG.





Judiciary

Jamie Wyatt

If that occurs, the expense or some portion of it may be covered by the alcohol and drug addiction treatment fund. The bill also assesses a \$100.00 alcohol and drug addiction treatment fee on each drug related conviction, with all proceeds going to the alcohol and drug treatment fund.

- **HB 1521 by Rep. Coleman** includes vehicular homicide in the offenses ineligible for pretrial diversion.
- **HB 1836 by Rep. Coleman** creates sixty-four (64) additional assistant district attorney general positions effective October 1, 2007. The bill requires the district attorneys general conference to prepare a report with recommendations regarding the specific judicial districts in which the additional assistant district attorney general positions created would be designated.
- **HB 1837 by Rep. Coleman** increases the penalty for second or subsequent convictions for aggravated robbery occurring after January 1, 2008. The offender must serve 100 percent of the sentence imposed by the court less earned sentence credits which can't exceed fifteen (15%) percent.

Rolled to March 21st Special Calendar for Sex Offender Bills:

HB 412 by Rep. Todd
HB 1028 by Rep. Todd
HB 1029 by Rep. Todd

Rolled 2 weeks:

HB 50 by Rep. M. Turner
HB 619 by Rep. M. Turner
HB 36 by Rep. Hackworth

Off Notice

HB 413 by Rep. Todd
HB 414 by Rep. Todd
HB 60 by Rep. M. Turner
HB 67 by Rep. M. Turner



State & Local Government

Lawrence Hall, Jr.

This week in the **State and Local Government** full committee two bills were considered and passed to Calendar and Rules and Finance, Ways, and Means, respectively.

HB 262 by Fraley – This bill provides property tax relief for veterans permanently and totally disabled from service-connected activities and not only combat related service.

HB 353 by Winningham – This bill changes terms of board of mayor and alderman from nonstaggered two-year terms to nonstaggered four-year terms.

State Government Subcommittee

The **State Government** Subcommittee considered six bills this week. Four bills were moved on to full committee and two were taken off notice.

Full Committee:

-HJR 118 by Watson – Names April 19, 2007 as “Patriot’s Day.”

-HB 1057 by Tindell – This bill revises certain provisions of the Tennessee charitable gaming implementation law.

-HB 808 by Odom – This bill specifies that certain civil service employees who are assigned to work in a higher level classification are entitled to receive higher compensation by removing limitation that such compensation is subject to budgetary limitations.

-HB 231 by Moore – This bill prohibits state employees from being appointed to the commission on firefighting personnel standards and education, but does not affect terms of current members of the commission.

Off Notice:

-HB 219 by Odom – Prohibits smoking in any state owned or leased motor vehicle.

-HB 480 by Moore – Redefines “lobby” to include communications by persons engaging in lobbying activities on behalf of school boards, municipal utilities, utility districts, and any department, agency, or entity of state, county, and municipal government.



Local Government Subcommittee

This week in **Local Government** subcommittee five bills were considered. Rep. Overbey’s HB 174 and HB 913 by Rep. Maggart were passed to full committee. HB 158 by Rep. Dubois was re-referred to Elections Subcommittee. This bill authorizes property rights voting in municipal elections in Spring Hill.

Full Committee:

-HB 174 by Overbey – This bill broadens disabled veteran’s eligibility for property tax relief on residences by removing the requirement that 100 percent permanent total disability be combat-related.

-HB 913 by Maggart – Authorizes the city of Goodlettsville to conduct a referendum for the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises only in that portion of the city located in Sumner County.

Rolled 1 week:

-HB 216 by Odom – This bill raises the amount over

CONTINUED ON NEXT PG.



State & Local Government

Lawrence Hall, Jr.

which competitive bids are required for county purchases under the general fund from \$5,000 to 10,000.

-HB 229 by Moore – This bill requires local government to authorize charitable solicitations in roadways by local government employees, subject to certain conditions.

Elections Subcommittee

This week in **Elections Subcommittee** two bills were heard. HB 841 by Favors was rolled for one week and HB 754 by McDonald was passed to full committee.

-HB 841 by Favors – This bill adopts the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote requiring the state's electors will be selected based on the national popular vote.

-HB 754 by McDonald- This bill creates presumption that a move within the same county is a change of residence for election purposes.



Transportation

Jeremy L. Elrod



Chairman
Pinion

Full Committee

The **House Transportation Committee** convened on February 27, 2007 to consider seven bills. **HB7** (Bone) was rolled one week.

HB275 (Sargent) was passed and referred to Calendar and Rules Committee. As amended, the bill redefines criminal offenses relating to

viewing video broadcasts while driving or installing video equipment in motor vehicles. It clarifies that a monitor or screen is not permitted if it intended to be viewed by the driver when the vehicle is in motion. The bill contains new exemptions to allow cellular phones when they are used for navigation, and it also allows visual displays to help the driver view the sides of the vehicle.

The following bills were referred to the **Finance, Ways and Means Committee**:

HB102 (Winningham) – “Frank B. Halsell Memorial Highway” signs on a certain segment of State Route 53 in Clay County.

HB103 (Winningham) – “Joe A. Clark Memorial Highway” signs on a certain segment of State Route 53 in Clay County. It was amended to be funded by state moneys.

The following bills were passed by the committee and will but put into the omnibus **Special License Plate bill**:

HB256 (Sargent) – As amended, authorizes a Ohio State University new specialty earmarked license plates. It allocates 50 percent of funds derived from sale and renewal to an endowed scholarship fund for Tennessee students attending Ohio State University.

HB30 (H. Brooks) - Authorizes a Recreational Vehicle new specialty earmarked license plates. It allocates 50 percent of funds derived from sale and renewal to department of tourist development to promote camping and the use of recreational vehicles in Tennessee.

HB372 (Fraley) – Authorizes issuance of Pink Ribbon new specialty earmarked license plates. It allocates a portion of funds from the sale and renewal to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The bill was amended to be exempt from the 3 year statutory waiting period because the license plate had previously become obsolete.

Public Safety & Rural Roads Subcommittee

The **Public Safety & Rural Roads Subcommittee** met February 27, 2007, to consider eight bills. Action on **HJR104** (Matheny) was deferred one week. **HB32** (DuBois) was rolled two weeks. The subcommittee deferred **HB45** (Fraley) to 2008.

The following bills were referred to the full **Transportation Committee**:

HB227 (Moore) - Increases fine for unauthorized use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities from \$100 to \$150. It also requires commissioner of finance and administration to report to the general assembly regarding cost-of-living increases every five years and the impact of such increases on the fine amount so the general assembly can determine if fine should be increased. The bill was amended to fix a typographical error.

HB719 (Winningham) - Authorizes all terrain vehicles on a certain county road in Scott County.

HB141 (Overbey) - Authorizes Alpha Omicron Pi sorority new specialty earmarked license plate.

HB1275 (Lynn) - Authorizes issuance of Nashville Predators special license plates; funds to be allocated to the Nashville Predators Foundation.

HB279 (Mumpower) - Prescribes design for honorary consular cultural license plates.

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Transportation

Jeremy L. Elrod

Public Transportation & Highways Subcommittee

The **Public Transportation & Highways Subcommittee** met on February 27, 2007 to consider fourteen bills. Action on **HB6** (Bone) was deferred for two weeks. **HB366** (Rowland) was removed from the subcommittee calendar and placed on the Government Operations Committee calendar pursuant to a motion during session Monday night.

The following bills were passed to the full **Transportation Committee**:

HB335 (K. Brooks) - "Veterans Memorial Highway," highway signs on a segment of APD 40 bypass in City of Cleveland and Bradley County

HB289 (M. Turner) - "Ed Walsh Pike," highway signs on a segment of State Route 265 in Davidson County.

HB235 (Overbey) - Enacts the "Jeff Roth Bicycle and Pedalcyclists Protection Act of 2007." As amended, this bill requires a motor vehicle to leave at least three feet between the vehicle and a bicycle when overtaking and passing a bicycle that is proceeding in the same direction. Violation of this bill is a Class C misdemeanor.

HB900 (Maggart) - "Corporal Lance Tyler Overstreet Memorial Bridge," highway signs on a bridge spanning East Fork of Station Camp Creek on State Route 174 in Sumner County

HB937 (Maggart)- "Korean Veterans Memorial Bridge," highway signs on a bridge on State Route 386 in Sumner County

HB202 (Dean) - "Fred Pruett Memorial Bridge," highway signs on a bridge spanning South Creek on U.S. Highway 41/76 in Hamilton County.

HB281 (Dean) - "Jack Sharp Memorial Bridge," highway signs on a bridge spanning I-75 on U.S. Highway 41/76 in Hamilton County

HB385 (Dean) - "Deputy Donald Bond Memorial Highway," highway signs on a segment of State Route 320 in Hamilton County.

HB31 (DuBois) - "Rosalee Fly Atkisson Memorial Bridge," highway signs on a spanning

HB31 (DuBois) - "Rosalee Fly Atkisson Memorial Bridge," highway signs on a spanning Leipers Creek on State Route 7 in Maury County.

HB79 (DuBois) - "Trooper Calvin Wayne Jenks Memorial Highway," highway signs on a segment of State Route 50 in Maury County.

HB903 (Hill) - "PFC Nilon K. Bacon Memorial Highway," highway signs on a segment of State Route 93 in Washington County

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